CLAIMS:

1. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:

reducing the scale of a video feed to produce its "thumbnail" video feed;

transmitting the thumbnail video feed over a communications network.

2. A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a request for the thumbnail version of the video feed,

wherein the transmitting is performed in response to such request.

3. A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises preprocessing the video feed to aid in producing a low-resolution version.

4. A computing device comprising:

a media-stream transmitter;

a medium as recited in claim 1.

5.   A method comprising:

reducing the scale of a video feed to produce its "thumbnail" video feed;

transmitting the thumbnail video feed over a communications network.

6.   A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising:

receiving a request for the thumbnail version of the video feed,

wherein the transmitting is performed in response to such request.

7.   A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising preprocessing the video feed to aid in producing a low-resolution version.

8.   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:

receiving one or more scaled-reduced versions of video feeds ("thumbnail video feeds) over a communication network;

constructing and presenting a user-interface (UI) comprising the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

9.   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises requesting one or more thumbnail video feeds.

10.   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises presenting audio that corresponds to one of the presented thumbnail video feeds.

11.   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a highlight indication for one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

presenting audio that corresponds to that highlighted one of the presented thumbnail video feeds.

12. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises:

requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

13. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a selection request that selects one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

requesting a full-scale version of the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

14. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further comprises:

requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it inhabits much or all of the available screen space;

presenting the full-scale version of the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds when the full-scale version is received and ready for presentation.

15. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises information associated with the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

16. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises electronic program information associated with the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

17. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises an on-going full-scale video feed.

18. A computing device comprising:

a media-stream presentation device;

a medium as recited in claim 8.

19. A method facilitating production of a user-interface (UI), the method comprising:

receiving one or more scale-reduced versions of video feeds ("thumbnail video feeds) over a communication network;

constructing and presenting a UI comprising the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

20. A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising requesting one or more thumbnail video feeds.

21. A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising presenting audio that corresponds to one of the presented thumbnail video feeds.

22. A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:

receiving a highlight indication for one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

presenting audio that corresponds to that highlighted one of the presented thumbnail video feeds.

23. A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:

requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

24. A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:

requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds;

zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it inhabits much or all of the available screen space;

presenting the full-scale version of the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds when the full-scale version is received and ready for presentation.

25. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises information associated with the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

26. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises electronic program information associated with the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

27. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed and presented further comprises an on-going full-scale video feed.

28. A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 19.

29. A multimedia system comprising:

a receiving unit configured for receiving one or more scaled-reduced version of video feeds ("thumbnail video feeds) over a communication network;

a user-interface (UI) generator configured to generate a UI comprising the one or more thumbnail video feeds;

a presentation device configured for presentation of the UI.

30. A system as recited in claim 29 further comprising a UI selection device configured for the user to either highlight or select the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

31. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, produce a user-interface (UI) of a multimedia system, the UI comprising multiple "thumbnail" display areas, each area configured to display a reduced-scale ("thumbnail") video feed received via a communications network.

32. A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises at least one information display area configured to display information associated with a corresponding thumbnail video feed.

33. A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises at least one information display area configured to display electronic program guide information associated with a corresponding thumbnail video feed.

34. A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein each thumbnail video feed displayed is a separate and distinct video feed.

35. A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises an executable program module configured to respond to user selection of one of the multiple thumbnail display areas.